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 Date: 8/12/05 Page 1 of 10

 From: Stephen Condakos, Vice President

To:

Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit & Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Dept of Agriculture.

 To Fax # 202-720-8871
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opt #2

voice mail 604.

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Changes I propose on the following pages for the U.S.
 Standards for Grades for Mangoes would bring U.S. Standards &
 industry standards more uniform with the standards of acceptability
 with many of the chain stores in the North East. Currently
 we in the regional markets are not on equal footing with
 regards to what is acceptable. 1 Piece of fruit in a 10 ct box
 of mangoes is 10% - this is too lenient.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Fruit and
Vegetable
Programs

Fresh
Products
Branch

Proposed United States Standards for Grades of Mangos

Proposed**Proposed United States Standards for Grades of Mangos****Grades**

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Grades**51.1043 U.S. Fancy**

"U.S. Fancy" consists of mangos of similar varietal characteristics which are mature, clean, well formed, well trimmed, and which are free from decay, soft, Anthracnose, freezing, internal discoloration, insects, larva, insect or larva feeding, shriveling, skin breaks which are not healed, and free from injury by healed skin breaks, bruising, Soft Nose, scab, external discoloration, sunken discolored areas, scars, russeting, other diseases, mechanical or other means.

(a) Tolerances. In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than ⁵~~10~~ percent, by count, of the mangos in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including in this amount not more than ²~~5~~ percent shall be allowed for defects causing damage, including in this latter amount not more than 2 percent shall be allowed for decay.

51.1044 U.S. No. 1.

Shall be 5%
S
"U.S. No. 1" consists of mangos of similar varietal characteristics which are mature, clean, fairly well formed, well trimmed, and which are free from decay, soft, Anthracnose, freezing, skin breaks which are not healed and extend into the flesh, insects or larva, and free from damage caused by insect or larva feeding, bruising, shriveling, Soft Nose, scab, external discoloration, internal discoloration, sunken discolored areas, scars, russeting, other diseases, mechanical or other means.

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(a) Tolerances. In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than ⁵~~10~~ percent, by count, of the mangos in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including in this amount not more than ³~~5~~ percent shall be allowed for defects causing serious damage, including in this latter amount not more than 2 percent shall be allowed for decay.

51.1045 U.S. No. 2.

"U.S. No. 2" consists of mangos of similar varietal characteristics which are mature, clean, fairly well formed, well trimmed, and which are free from decay, soft, freezing, skin breaks which are not healed and extend into the flesh, insects or larva, and free from serious damage caused by Anthracnose, insect or larva feeding, bruising, shriveling, Soft Nose, scab, external discoloration, internal discoloration, sunken discolored areas, scars, russeting, other diseases, mechanical or other means.

(a) Tolerances. In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than 10 percent, by count, of the mangos in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade, included in this amount not more than 2 percent shall be allowed for decay.

Application of Tolerances**51.1046 Application of tolerances.**

The contents of individual packages in the lot are subject to the following limitations: **Provided**, That the averages for the entire lot are within the tolerances specified for the grade:

(a) For packages which contain more than 10 pounds, and a tolerance of 10 percent or more is provided, individual packages in any lot shall contain not more than one and one-half times the tolerance specified: For packages which contain more than 10 pounds, and a tolerance of less than 10 percent is provided, individual containers in any lot shall have not more than

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double the tolerance specified, except that at least one defective and one off-size mango may be permitted in any package.

(b) For packages which contain 10 pounds or less, individual packages in any lot are not restricted as to the percentage of defects: **Provided**, That not more than one mango which is defective and one off-size may be permitted in any container.

Size Requirements**51.1047 Size requirements.**

The size of mangos shall be specified with only one size marked on the package as to the size designations set forth in Table I. Individual packages shall not be marked with more than one size designation.

(a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, not more than 10 percent, by count, of the mangos may fail to meet the requirements of the size designations set forth in Table I.

(b) In determining compliance with the size designations, the minimum and maximum weight for each size designation shall correspond with the range set forth in Table I.

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TABLE I	
Size designations	
Number of fruit per container	Weight in ounces
6	24 ounces – 28 ounces
7	22 ounces – 24 ounces
8	18 ounces – 22 ounces
9	16 ounces – 18 ounces
12	12 ounces – 16 ounces
16	10 ounces – 12 ounces
20	8.0 ounces – 10 ounces
22	6.0 ounces – 8.0 ounces
24	4.0 ounces – 6.0 ounces

Definitions *What about 10 ct and 14 ct → too much leeway*

51.1048 Clean.

"Clean" means that the fruit is practically free from dirt, dust or other foreign material.

51.1049 Damage.

"Damage" means any defect that materially affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the mango. Any one of the following defects listed in the "Classification of Defects" table, or any combination thereof, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as damage.

51.1050 Diameter.

"Diameter" means the greatest dimension of the mango measured at right angles to a line from stem to blossom end.

Proposed**51.1051 Fairly tight.**

"Fairly tight" means mangos are packed in a manner to prevent the fruit from moving within the package.

51.1052 Fairly well formed.

"Fairly well formed" means that the shape of the mango is typical of the variety and is symmetrical with slight irregularities in shape allowed; but, not to an extent where its appearance is materially affected.

51.1053 Injury.

"Injury" means any injury or defect that slightly affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the mango. Any one of the following defects listed in the "Classification of Defects" table, or any combination thereof, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as injury.

51.1054 Mature.

"Mature" means that the mango has reached the stage of development that will ensure the proper completion of the ripening process.

51.1055 Misshapen.

"Misshapen" means that the shape of the mango is abnormal to an extent that its appearance is materially affected.

51.1056 Serious damage.

"Serious damage" means any defect which seriously affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the mango. Any one of the following defects listed in the "Classification of Defects" table, or any combination thereof, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as serious damage.

Proposed**51.1057 Similar varietal characteristics.**

"Similar varietal characteristics" means the fruit in any package is of similar shape and of similar skin and flesh color.

51.1058 Well formed.

"Well formed" means that the shape of the mango is typical of the variety and is symmetrical without irregularities in shape.

51.1059 Well trimmed.

"Well trimmed" means the stem is neatly clipped or broken off at a point not more than 1/2 inch beyond the point of attachment.

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51.1060 Classification of Defects ¹			
Defects	Injury	Damage	Serious Damage
Anthracnose	When present in any amount.	When present in any amount.	Any single spot more than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter or any combination of spots $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in aggregate.
Bruising	Any slight surface indentation and discoloration of the flesh extending more than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in depth and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.	Surface indentation and discoloration of the flesh extends deeper than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or causing discoloration exceeding the area of a circle $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter.	Surface indentation and discoloration of the flesh extends deeper than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and causing discoloration exceeding the area of a circle 1 inch in diameter.
External (Surface) Discoloration	Discoloration affecting an aggregate area more than 5% of the fruit surface.	Discoloration affecting an aggregate area more than 10% of the fruit surface.	Discoloration affecting an aggregate area more than 15% of the fruit surface.
Insects or Insect or Larva Feeding Injury	When any is present or when any feeding injury is evident on the fruit.	When any is present or when feeding injury aggregates an area that exceeds that of a circle $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.	When any is present or when feeding injury aggregates an area that exceeds that of a circle 1 inch in diameter.
Internal Discoloration	When present in any amount.	When affecting an aggregate area more than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter.	When affecting an aggregate area more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.
Scab	When cracked, or when the aggregate area exceeds that of a circle $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter.	When cracked, or when the aggregate area exceeds that of a circle $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.	When the aggregate area exceeds that of a circle $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter.

¹ References to area, aggregate areas, or length are based on fruit 3 inches in diameter. Corresponding smaller or larger areas would be allowed on smaller or larger fruit.

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51.1060 Classification of Defects (continued) ¹			
Defects	Injury	Damage	Serious Damage
Scars or Russetting	When light colored, smooth and affecting an aggregate area 3 1/2 more than 5 2 1/2% of the surface, or when dark or rough or scaly and affecting an aggregate area more than 2 1/2 2% of the surface. 2%	When light colored, smooth and affecting an aggregate area 5 1/2 more than 10 3% of the surface, or when dark or rough or scaly and affecting an aggregate area more than 5 3% of the surface. 3%	When light colored, smooth and affecting an aggregate area 10 1/2 more than 15 5% of the surface, or when dark or rough or scaly and affecting an aggregate area more than 10 5% of the surface. 5%
Skin Breaks	When unhealed or when the aggregate area of healed breaks exceeds that of a circle 1/4 inch in diameter or 1/4 inch in length.	When any break is into the flesh or when the aggregate area of healed breaks exceeds that of a circle 1/2 inch in diameter or 1/2 inch in length.	When any break is into the flesh or when the aggregate area of healed breaks exceeds that of a circle 1 inch in diameter or 1 inch in length.
Shriveling	When present in any amount.	When affecting an aggregate area more than 5 2% of the surface. 2%	When affecting an aggregate area more than 10 5% of the surface. 5%
Soft Nose	When affecting 1/8 inch from the blossom end and is soft and/or spongy. 2 1/2	When affecting 1/4 inch from the blossom end and is soft and/or spongy. 3 1/2	When affecting 1/2 inch from the blossom end and is soft and/or spongy. 5 1/2
Sunken Discolored Areas	When more than 5 2 1/2% of the surface has a distinct sunken area with discoloration. 2 1/2	When more than 10 3% of the surface has a distinct sunken area with discoloration. 3 1/2	When more than 15 5% of the surface has a distinct sunken area with discoloration. 5 1/2

¹ References to area, aggregate areas, or length are based on fruit 3 inches in diameter. Corresponding smaller or larger areas would be allowed on smaller or larger fruit.